

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 058-73
19 OCTOBER 1973

Approved For Release 2001/08/14 : CIA-RDP85T00875R0006000650054-8

SECRET/NFD

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 058.

ITEMS MARKED & HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF
 STATE AND DEFENSE.

1. VENEZUELA: THE CALDERA GOVERNMENT PROBABLY WILL SOON
 ANNOUNCE A SHARP HIKE IN THE TAX REFERENCE VALUE (TRV) FOR CRUDE
 OIL--THE ARTIFICIAL PRICE ON WHICH THE OIL COMPANIES' TAXES ARE
 BASED.

THE EXPECTED ACTION WOULD FOLLOW THE RECENT DECISION OF THE
 PERSIAN GULF OIL PRODUCERS TO DEMAND A 70 PERCENT INCREASE IN
 POSTED PRICES FOR THEIR CRUDE OIL, AND IT WOULD BE IN PART A
 DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH OTHER OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS.
 VENEZUELA OBVIOUSLY HOPES TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CURRENT
 INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM SHORTAGE AND THE INCREASED WORLD-WIDE
 CONSUMPTION OF ALL SOURCES OF ENERGY. THE TRV INCREASE WOULD
 BE AS HIGH AS 70 PERCENT AND WOULD BE THE NINTH INCREASE
 ANNOUNCED THIS YEAR. OFFICIALS IN THE PETROLEUM MINISTRY HAVE
 ALREADY PUT US OIL COMPANIES ON NOTICE THAT FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL
 INCREASES ARE ON THE WAY.

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ALTHOUGH VENEZUELA IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES {OPEC}, THE CALDERA GOVERNMENT WILL NOT FOLLOW THE ACTION OF ARAB OIL PRODUCING STATES IN ANNOUNCING AN INITIAL FIVE PERCENT PRODUCTION CUTBACK, NOR WILL IT AGREE TO ANY PROPOSALS THAT COULD BE INTERPRETED AS HOLDING "OIL FOR RANSOM." THE PRAGMATIC VENEZUELAN PROBABLY SEE THE CURRENT SITUATION AS ONE WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO KEEP UP PRESENT PRODUCTION LEVELS AND AT THE SAME TIME SHARPLY INCREASE REVENUES FROM OIL SALES. {CONFIDENTIAL}

2. MEXICO: DESPITE PAST OFFICIAL STATEMENTS TO THE CONTRARY, MEXICO APPARENTLY IS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN SOME SORT OF A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET-LED COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE {CEMA}. [REDACTED]

25X1X

REPORTED THAT ■CEMA CAN RECEIVE A MEXICAN DELEGATION IN NOVEMBER TO EXPLORE ON A NONOFFICIAL BASIS POSSIBILITIES FOR MUTUAL COOPERATION. HE STATED THAT OFFICIAL NEGOTIATIONS COULD COME LATER SHOULD BOTH SIDES FIND SPECIFIC AREAS FOR COOPERATION. THE INQUIRY TO CEMA WAS MADE AT THE REQUEST OF THE MEXICAN

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SUBSECRETARY OF COMMERCE. MEXICAN PARTICIPATION IN CEMA WOULD BE IN LINE WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S ASSERTIVE FOREIGN POLICY, HIS DRIVE TO INCREASE EXPORTS, AND HIS DESIRE THAT MEXICO BECOME ECONOMICALLY MORE INDEPENDENT. BUT BECAUSE DIRECT TIES TO CEMA WOULD AROUSE STRONG DOMESTIC POLITICAL OPPOSITION ANY MEXICAN LINKS WITH THE ORGANIZATION PROBABLY WOULD BE LOOSE.
 {SECRET}

3. TRINIDAD-TOBAGO: THE GOVERNMENT HAS SCORED ITS SECOND MAJOR SUCCESS IN ABOUT A MONTH AGAINST THE LEFTIST GUERRILLA ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL UNION OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS {NUFF}. THE US EMBASSY IN PORT OF SPAIN HAS REPORTED THAT GUY HAREWOOD, A LEADER OF THE GROUP, WAS KILLED BY POLICE FORCES ON 17 OCTOBER. SECURITY FORCES HAVE CAPTURED A GUERRILLA RE-DOUBT ON 13 SEPTEMBER.

THE EXISTENCE OF THE NUFF FIRST BECAME KNOWN LAST FEBRUARY WHEN IT OBTAINED SOME \$60,000 IN A DARING BANK HOLDUP. SINCE THEN THE GROUP HAS GROWN TO APPROXIMATELY 30 FULL-TIME ACTIVISTS DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS. GUY HAREWOOD WAS THE LEADER OF THE

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GROUP BASED IN TRINIDAD'S NORTHERN MOUNTAINS, AND BRIAN JEFFERS HEADS A SECOND UNIT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHERN FORESTS. DURING THE SUMMER THE GUERRILLAS STAGED A SUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON AN ISOLATED POLICE STATION AND BOMBED A COMMUNICATIONS RELAY STATION.

THE RECENT SUCCESSES BY THE SECURITY FORCES WILL PROBABLY CAUSE THE NUFF TO LIE LOW FOR THE TIME BEING. THE DEATH OF HAREWOOD SHOULD HELP THE PUBLIC REGAIN CONFIDENCE IN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECURITY FORCES. {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. 8■■ARAB STATES-MIDDLE EAST■: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SINAI ■■ ON 18 OCTOBER AND A MAJOR BATTLE IS SHAPING UP BETWEEN THE ISRAELI TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK AND SURROUNDING EGYPTIAN UNITS. THE SYRIAN FRONT WAS RELATIVELY QUIET FOR THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW, WITH A VIRTUAL CESSATION OF AIR ACTIVITY.

CAIRO AND TEL AVIV CONTINUED TO REPORT EXTREMELY HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE SINAI, BUT NEITHER SIDE PROVIDED MANY DETAILS. THE PORT SAID AREA WAS AGAIN THE TARGET OF CONCENTRATED ISRAELI AIR STRIKES, WITH OTHER MISSIONS FLOWN ALONG THE CANAL AND

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AGAINST SOME EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS. EGYPTIAN AIR ACTIVITY WAS
 LIMITED TO DEFENSIVE PATROLS.

THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED THEIR
 TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK, AND HAVE BEATEN OFF HEAVY EGYPTIAN
 COUNTERATTACKS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CANAL, DESTROYING 110 TANKS.
 BY EARLY THIS MORNING TEL AVIV SAID IT HAD 200 TANKS ON THE
 WEST BANK. CAIRO, HOWEVER, CLAIMED IT HAD THE FORCE ENCIRCLED,
 AND HAD ORDERED IT TO SURRENDER OR FACE ANNIHILATION. THE
 ISRAELIS HAVE YET TO ANNOUNCE HOW LONG THE FORCE WILL REMAIN ON
 THE WEST BANK.

THE SYRIAN FRONT YESTERDAY HAD THE QUIETEST DAY SINCE THE
 WAR BEGAN. THE ONLY GROUND ACTIONS OF NOTE WERE SOME MODERATE
 ARTILLERY EXCHANGES. THE ISRAELIS MADE NO CLAIMS OF HAVING
 DESTROYED ARAB ARMOR, BUT SYRIA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID IT
 DESTROYED 30 ISRAELI TANKS AND 10 ARMORED VEHICLES. THE
 ISRAELIS EVIDENTLY CONSIDER THE SYRIAN FRONT SUFFICIENTLY
 STABILIZED TO PERMIT CONCENTRATION OF THEIR RESOURCES IN THEIR
 DELAYED OFFENSIVE IN THE SINAI.

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THE ISRAELI BORDER WITH LEBANON IS BECOMING MORE ACTIVE. THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THAT GUERRILLA HIT-AND-RUN ACTIONS ARE INCREASING, AND THE LEBANESE HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT MORTAR AND ARTILLERY ROUNDS FROM ISRAEL FALLING ON LEBANESE TERRITORY.

THE MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS HAD THREE LENGTHY MEETINGS WITH SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN IN CAIRO. MOSCOW, HOWEVER, HAS NOT YET ADMITTED THAT KOSYGIN IS VISITING EGYPT.

SOVIET PROPAGANDA AND CONTACTS WITH SOVIET DIPLOMATS CONTINUE TO REFLECT MOSCOW'S CONCERN THAT THE WAR MIGHT INTERRUPT THE PROCESS OF DETENTE. THIS CONCERN IS NOT DEEP ENOUGH, HOWEVER, TO HALT THE AIRLIFT WHICH CONTINUED YESTERDAY AT ABOUT THE SAME PACE.

THE DEPLOYMENT OF FOUR AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN ON 17 OCTOBER RAISES THE NUMBER OF SOVIET NAVAL SHIPS THERE TO 73 UNITS. THE NORMAL MEDITERRANEAN FORCE NUMBERS BETWEEN 45 AND 50 SUBMARINES AND SURFACE SHIPS.

THE PRESENT SOVIET FORCE IS MADE UP OF 27 SURFACE COMBATANTS,

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INCLUDING AMPHIBIOUS VESSELS AND MINESWEEPERS, AND 18 SUBMARINES. THE REMAINING FORCE IS COMPOSED OF 28 LOGISTIC SUPPORT SHIPS AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTORS.

THE NUMBER OF SOVIET UNITS NOW IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IS THE LARGEST EVER OBSERVED THERE. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS IMPROVES THE CAPABILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON TO PROVIDE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THE ARABS. DESPITE THE INCREASE IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPS, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ADDED A LARGE NUMBER OF MAJOR COMBATANTS TO THEIR FORCES IN REACTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. BEFORE THE FIGHTING BEGAN THERE WERE 14 MAJOR COMBATANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COMPARED TO THE 17 THAT ARE THERE NOW. TWO OF THE NEW UNITS THAT CAME OUT OF THE BLACK SEA ON 10 OCTOBER--A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER--PROBABLY WERE NOT A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE WAR BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN SCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER TO VISIT ITALY WHERE THEY ARE NOW MAKING A PORT CALL.

THE MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING ERUPTED AT THE TIME THE SEMIANNUAL SOVIET SUBMARINE TURNOVER WAS OCCURRING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

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A RELIEF GROUP OF NINE SUBMARINES FROM THE NORTHERN FLEET

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THEY MAY

HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO STAY ON PATROL BECAUSE OF THE WAR. {SECRET}
 E-2IMPDET.H

DO/DDO _____

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SDO _____

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 058.

ITEMS MARKED & HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF
STATE AND DEFENSE.

1. UN-CAMBODIA: PRINCE SIHANOUK'S CHALLENGE OF THE LON NOL
GOVERNMENT'S RIGHT TO REPRESENT CAMBODIA IN THE UN HAS TAKEN AN IM-
PORTANT STEP FORWARD. A NONALIGNED RESOLUTION, WHICH WOULD SEAT THE
SIHANOUK DELEGATION, WAS FORMALLY INSCRIBED ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S
AGENDA ON 17 OCTOBER. THE INSCRIPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION WILL LEAD
TO THE FIRST CONFRONTATION AMONG THE GREAT POWERS IN THIS SESSION AND
A CLOSE VOTE IS PROBABLE.

THE INITIAL DECISION TO INSCRIBE THE RESOLUTION CAME IN THE
AGENDA COMMITTEE, //WHERE THE US WAS GREATLY OUTNUMBERED BY THE COM-
MUNIST AND NONALIGNED STATES. THE WEST EUROPEAN MEMBERS ABSTAINED.//
ALTHOUGH PRINCE SIHANOUK'S EFFORTS TO UNSEAT PHNOM PENH'S DELEGATIONS
IN THE PAST TWO ASSEMBLIES HAD LITTLE SUCCESS, HIS POSITION HAS BEEN
GREATLY STRENGTHENED THIS YEAR BY THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF NONALIGNED
STATES, CHINA, AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE NONALIGNED STATES VIEW
THIS CHALLENGE AS A TEST OF THEIR SOLIDARITY, //AND THE EFFORT TO

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MARSHAL THEIR FULL VOTING MAJORITY MAY BE AIDED BY THE UNPOPULARITY OF THE US MIDDLE EAST POLICIES AMONG PRO-ARAB GROUPS. CHINA, ALWAYS PLEASED TO POSE AS A LEADER OF THE NONALIGNED, HAS SHOWN NO HESITATION TO CONFRONT THE US ON THIS ISSUE.// IN COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS-- WHICH MAY WELL FORESHADOW THE FLOOR DEBATE--CHINA INSISTED THAT PRO-SIHANOUK FORCES CONTROL 80 PERCENT OF CAMBODIA. IT IS SIHANOUK'S RECENTLY ACQUIRED SOVIET SUPPORT, HOWEVER, THAT WILL BE CRUCIAL IN THE EVENTUAL VOTE DETERMINING WHICH DELEGATION WILL REPRESENT CAMBODIA.

MEANWHILE, MOSCOW HAS BEGUN TO IMPLEMENT ITS DECISION OF 9 OCTOBER TO MOVE CLOSER TOWARD RECOGNITION OF SIHANOUK'S "GOVERNMENT." THE SOVIETS ON 17 OCTOBER SUPPORTED SIHANOUK'S ALLIES AT THE UN IN THEIR EFFORTS TO HAVE THE CAMBODIAN CREDENTIALS ISSUE BROUGHT BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. ON THE SAME DAY, THE SOVIET CHARGE IN PHNOM PENH INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT "BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION," MOSCOW WILL WITHDRAW ALL PERSONNEL EXCEPT THREE CARETAKERS. THE CHARGE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO BRING IN AN AEROFLOT PLANE ON 24 OCTOBER TO FLY OUT EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

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DESPITE THESE MOVES, THE SOVIETS ARE STILL SEEKING TO KEEP THEIR OPTIONS AT LEAST SLIGHTLY OPEN. WHEN CAMBODIAN OFFICIALS ASKED THE SOVIET CHARGE IF MOSCOW PLANS TO DESIGNATE A THIRD PARTY TO LOOK AFTER ITS INTERESTS, THE CHARGE MAINTAINED THAT THE USSR IS NOT BREAKING RELATIONS AND THAT THE WITHDRAWAL IS ONLY TEMPORARY. IN ANY CASE, MOSCOW'S MOVES ARE FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT IT DOES NOT ENVISAGE A CAMBODIAN SETTLEMENT THAT DENIES SIHANOUK A MAJOR ROLE.

{CONFIDENTIAL}

2. CHINA: A FINAL DECISION REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN REACHED ON THE POLITICAL FATE OF SEVERAL FORMER MILITARY AND PARTY LEADERS IMPLICATED IN THE LIN PIAO AFFAIR, BUT NO AGREEMENT IS APPARENT ON THE MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF REPLACEMENTS.

//CENTRAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT 34, APPROVED DURING THE TENTH PARTY CONGRESS IN LATE AUGUST, REPORTEDLY IS NOW BEING STUDIED IN PEKING AND PRESUMABLY IN OTHER AREAS OF CHINA. THE DOCUMENT ORDERS THE PERMANENT EXPULSION OF EIGHT PERSONS FROM THE PARTY AND THEIR DISMISSAL FROM ALL POSTS. BESIDES FORMER MINISTER OF DEFENSE LIN, HIS WIFE, AND EX-POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER CHEN PO-TA,

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THE PRONOUNCEMENT NAMES THE FORMER ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, AIR FORCE COMMANDER, NAVY COMMISSAR, ARMY LOGISTIC CHIEF, AND PEKING MILITARY REGION COMMISSAR.//

THE MORE THAN TWO-YEAR DELAY IN FILLINGKEY MILITARY POSTS ■■■■ APPEARS TO REFLECT AN IMPASSE AMONG POLITICAL INTERESTS IN PEKING. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE NUMBER AND CONFLICTING POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE POSTS. IN ADDITION TO EXPERIENCED OFFICERS NOW SERVING JUST BELOW THE TOP LEVEL AND SOME YOUNGER OFFICERS, RECENTLY REHABILITATED MILITARY MEN WHO LOST THEIR POSITIONS DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION ARE IN THE RUNNING ALONG WITH OTHER OFFICERS WHO ARE SEEKING REHABILITATION. A NUMBER OF CONTROVERSIAL REHABILITEES HAVE GAINED CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATUS, BUT NONE HAS MADE THE NEW POLITBURO. IT IS THUS QUESTIONABLE THAT SUCH VETERANS WILL BE CHOSEN TO FILL ANY OF THE VACANT TOP MILITARY POSTS. THE POLITICAL FATE OF VETERAN CADRES IS ONE OF THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN PEKING, HOWEVER, AND THESE CADRES CANNOT BE COUNTED OUT.

IN ANY EVENT, THE SELECTION OF THE APPOINTEES WILL BE CAREFULLY NEGOTIATED. THE POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF A NEW MILITARY LEADERSHIP

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WILL NOT ONLY REFLECT THE CURRENT BALANCE OF POWER IN PEKING, BUT WILL ALSO BE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR INFLUENCING THE SUCCESSION TO MAO AND CHOU. DISCUSSIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR TOP MILITARY POSTS UNDOUBTEDLY WAS PART OF THE HARD BARGAINING IN ADVANCE OF THE RECENT PARTY CONGRESS. APPOINTMENTS TO THE VACANT MILITARY SLOTS MAY BE ANNOUNCED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE IMPENDING NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WHICH IS EXPECTED TO RUBBER-STAMP A SLATE OF GOVERNMENT LEADERS. //IF MILITARY APPOINTMENTS ARE NOT REVEALED THEN, THE CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENT 34 WILL SERVE ONLY TO UNDERScore CONTINUING UNRECONCILED POLITICAL DIFFERENCES AT THE CENTER.// {SECRET}

3. CHINA: PEKING'S FOREIGN TRADE LAST YEAR CONTINUED ITS UPWARD TREND OF RECENT YEARS AND REACHED A RECORD LEVEL OF \$5.8 BILLION--A 24-PERCENT INCREASE OVER 1971. SPURRED BY HEAVY IMPORTS OF FARM PRODUCTS--MUCH OF IT FROM THE US--MACHINERY, AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, CHINA'S TRADE TURN-OVER THIS YEAR IS EXPECTED TO REACH ABOUT \$7.5 BILLION. AS MUCH AS ONE HALF OF THE INCREASE LAST YEAR, HOWEVER, MAY BE DUE TO THE REVALUATION OF WORLD CURRENCIES IN DECEMBER 1971. EXPORTS OF \$3.0 BILLION AGAINST IMPORTS OF \$2.8

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BILLION YIELDED A FAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE.

TRADE WITH THE NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES CONSTITUTES MORE THAN THREE FOURTHS OF CHINA'S TRADE. JAPAN AND HONG KONG MAINTAINED THEIR POSITIONS AS CHINA'S TWO LARGEST TRADING PARTNERS. PEKING CONTINUED TO EXPORT ITS TRADITIONAL MIX OF FOODSTUFFS, CRUDE MATERIALS, TEXTILES, AND LIGHT MANUFACTURES. ON THE IMPORT SIDE, PEKING'S GRAIN PURCHASES ROSE FROM 3 MILLION TONS IN 1971 TO 4.8 MILLION TONS.

IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FIBERS AND METALS ALSO SHOWED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES. {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. //TAIWAN-US: TAIWAN'S EFFORTS TO STEP UP IMPORTS FROM THE US HAVE NOT YET HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON ITS GROWING TRADE SURPLUS WITH THIS COUNTRY. TAIWANESE CUSTOM DATA FOR THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1973 SHOW A \$575-MILLION SURPLUS, COMPARED WITH ABOUT \$700 MILLION FOR ALL OF 1972. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, TAIWAN'S 1973 TRADE SURPLUS WITH THE US WILL REACH AT LEAST \$750 MILLION. TAIPEI IS OPTIMISTIC, HOWEVER, THAT ITS "BUY AMERICAN" CAMPAIGN WILL SOON SHOW POSITIVE RESULTS. A SHARP RISE IN IMPORT APPLICATIONS DURING THE THIRD QUARTER UNDOUBTEDLY INCLUDES ORDERS FOR US GOODS,

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AND US FIGURES INDICATE THAT SALES TO TAIWAN ARE UP SUBSTANTIALLY OVER LAST YEAR'S LEVELS. DESPITE INCREASED PURCHASES, HOWEVER, THE TRADE SURPLUS IS BEING BOLSTERED BY THE CONTINUED STRONG PERFORMANCE OF TAIWANESE EXPORTS TO THIS COUNTRY---SALES TO THE US THIS YEAR SHOULD TOP \$1.5 BILLION, ABOUT 20 PERCENT ABOVE THE 1972 LEVEL. {CONFIDENTIAL} //

5. MIDDLE EAST: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SINAI ON 18 OCTOBER AND A MAJOR BATTLE IS SHAPING UP BETWEEN THE ISRAELI TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK AND SURROUNDING EGYPTIAN UNITS. THE SYRIAN FRONT WAS RELATIVELY QUIET FOR THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW, WITH A VIRTUAL CESSATION OF AIR ACTIVITY.

CAIRO AND TEL AVIV CONTINUED TO REPORT EXTREMELY HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE SINAI, BUT NEITHER SIDE PROVIDED MANY DETAILS. THE PORT SAID AREA WAS AGAIN THE TARGET OF CONCENTRATED ISRAELI AIR STRIKES, WITH OTHER MISSIONS FLOWN ALONG THE CANAL AND AGAINST SOME EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS. EGYPTIAN AIR ACTIVITY WAS LIMITED TO DEFENSIVE PATROLS.

THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED THEIR TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK, AND HAVE BEATEN OFF HEAVY EGYPTIAN

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COUNTERATTACKS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CANAL, DESTROYING 110 TANKS. BY EARLY THIS MORNING TEL AVIV SAID IT HAD 200 TANKS ON THE WEST BANK. CAIRO, HOWEVER, CLAIMED IT HAD THE FORCE ENCIRCLED, AND HAD ORDERED IT TO SURRENDER OR FACE ANNIHILATION. THE ISRAELIS HAVE YET TO ANNOUNCE HOW LONG THE FORCE WILL REMAIN ON THE WEST BANK.

THE SYRIAN FRONT YESTERDAY HAD THE QUIETEST DAY SINCE THE WAR BEGAN. THE ONLY GROUND ACTIONS OF NOTE WERE SOME MODERATE ARTILLERY EXCHANGES. THE ISRAELIS MADE NO CLAIMS OF HAVING DESTROYED ARAB ARMOR, BUT SYRIA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID IT DESTROYED 30 ISRAELI TANKS AND 10 ARMORED VEHICLES. THE ISRAELIS EVIDENTLY CONSIDER THE SYRIAN FRONT SUFFICIENTLY STABILIZED TO PERMIT CONCENTRATION OF THEIR RESOURCES IN THEIR DELAYED OFFENSIVE IN THE SINAI.

THE ISRAELI BORDER WITH LEBANON IS BECOMING MORE ACTIVE. THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THAT GUERRILLA HIT-AND-RUN ACTIONS ARE INCREASING, AND THE LEBANESE HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT MORTAR AND ARTILLERY ROUNDS FROM ISRAEL FALLING ON LEBANESE TERRITORY.

THE MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS HAD THREE LENGTHY MEETINGS WITH SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN IN

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CAIRO. MOSCOW, HOWEVER, HAS NOT YET ADMITTED THAT KOSYGIN IS VISITING EGYPT.

SOVIET PROPAGANDA AND CONTACTS WITH SOVIET DIPLOMATS CONTINUE TO REFLECT MOSCOW'S CONCERN THAT THE WAR MIGHT INTERRUPT THE PROCESS OF DETENTE. THIS CONCERN IS NOT DEEP ENOUGH, HOWEVER, TO HALT THE AIR-LIFT WHICH CONTINUED YESTERDAY AT ABOUT THE SAME PACE. {SECRET}

6. USSR-MEDITERRANEAN: THE DEPLOYMENT OF FOUR AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN ON 17 OCTOBER RAISES THE NUMBER OF SOVIET NAVAL SHIPS THERE TO 73 UNITS. THE NORMAL MEDITERRANEAN FORCE NUMBERS BETWEEN 45 AND 50 SUBMARINES AND SURFACE SHIPS.

THE PRESENT SOVIET FORCE IS MADE UP OF 27 SURFACE COMBATANTS, INCLUDING AMPHIBIOUS VESSELS AND MINESWEEPERS, AND 18 SUBMARINES. THE REMAINING FORCE IS COMPOSED OF 28 LOGISTIC SUPPORT SHIPS AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTORS.

THE NUMBER OF SOVIET UNITS NOW IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IS THE LARGEST EVER OBSERVED THERE. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS IMPROVES THE CAPABILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON TO PROVIDE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THE ARABS. DESPITE THE INCREASE IN THE

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TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPS. THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ADDED A LARGE NUMBER OF MAJOR COMBATANTS TO THEIR FORCES IN REACTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. BEFORE THE FIGHTING BEGAN THERE WERE 14 MAJOR COMBATANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COMPARED TO THE 17 THAT ARE THERE NOW. TWO OF THE NEW UNITS THAT CAME OUT OF THE BLACK SEA ON 10 OCTOBER--A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER--PROBABLY WERE NOT A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE WAR BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN SCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER TO VISIT ITALY WHERE THEY ARE NOW MAKING A PORT CALL.

THE MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING ERUPTED AT THE TIME THE SEMIANNUAL SOVIET SUBMARINE TURNOVER WAS OCCURRING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. A RELIEF GROUP OF NINE SUBMARINES FROM THE NORTHERN FLEET ENTERED THE MEDITERRANEAN

25X1D

THEY MAY HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO STAY ON PATROL BECAUSE OF THE WAR. {SECRET} E-2 IMPDETH

DO/DDO

25X1A

SDO

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MEA BRIEF 058.

1. MIDDLE EAST: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SINAI ON 18 OCTOBER AND A MAJOR BATTLE IS SHAPING UP BETWEEN THE ISRAELI TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK AND SURROUNDING EGYPTIAN UNITS. THE SYRIAN FRONT WAS RELATIVELY QUIET FOR THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW, WITH A VIRTUAL CESSATION OF AIR ACTIVITY.

CAIRO AND TEL AVIV CONTINUED TO REPORT EXTREMELY HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE SINAI, BUT NEITHER SIDE PROVIDED MANY DETAILS. THE PORT SAID AREA WAS AGAIN THE TARGET OF CONCENTRATED ISRAELI AIR STRIKES, WITH OTHER MISSIONS FLOWN ALONG THE CANAL AND AGAINST SOME EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS. EGYPTIAN AIR ACTIVITY WAS LIMITED TO DEFENSIVE PATROLS.

THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED THEIR TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK, AND HAVE BEATEN OFF HEAVY EGYPTIAN COUNTERATTACKS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CANAL, DESTROYING 110 TANKS. BY EARLY THIS MORNING TEL AVIV SAID IT HAD 200 TANKS ON THE WEST

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BANK. CAIRO, HOWEVER, CLAIMED IT HAD THE FORCE ENCIRCLED, AND HAD ORDERED IT TO SURRENDER OR FACE ANNIHILATION. THE ISRAELIS HAVE YET TO ANNOUNCE HOW LONG THE FORCE WILL REMAIN ON THE WEST BANK.

THE SYRIAN FRONT YESTERDAY HAD THE QUIETEST DAY SINCE THE WAR BEGAN. THE ONLY GROUND ACTIONS OF NOTE WERE SOME MODERATE ARTILLERY EXCHANGES. THE ISRAELIS MADE NO CLAIMS OF HAVING DESTROYED ARAB ARMOR, BUT SYRIA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID IT DESTROYED 30 ISRAELI TANKS AND 10 ARMORED VEHICLES. THE ISRAELIS EVIDENTLY CONSIDER THE SYRIAN FRONT SUFFICIENTLY STABILIZED TO PERMIT CONCENTRATION OF THEIR RESOURCES IN THEIR DELAYED OFFENSIVE IN THE SINAI.

THE ISRAELI BORDER WITH LEBANON IS BECOMING MORE ACTIVE. THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THAT GUERRILLA HIT-AND-RUN ACTIONS ARE INCREASING, AND THE LEBANESE HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT MORTAR AND ARTILLERY ROUNDS FROM IS-

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RAEL FALLING ON LEBANESE TERRITORY.

THE MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT
 THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS HAD THREE LENGTHY MEETINGS
 WITH SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN IN CAIRO. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XX~~

SOVIET PROPAGANDA AND CONTACTS WITH SOVIET DIP-
 LOMATS CONTINUE TO REFLECT MOSCOW'S CONCERN THAT THE
 WAR MIGHT INTERRUPT THE PROCESS OF DETENTE. THIS CONCERN
 IS NOT DEEP ENOUGH, HOWEVER, TO HALT THE AIRLIFT WHICH
 CONTINUED YESTERDAY AT ABOUT THE SAME PACE. {SECRET}

2. USSR-MEDITERRANEAN: THE DEPLOYMENT OF FOUR
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THE PRESENT SOVIET FORCE IS MADE UP OF 27 SUR-
 FACE COMBATANTS, INCLUDING AMPHIBIOUS VESSELS AND
 MINESWEEPERS, AND 18 SUBMARINES. THE REMAINING FORCE IS

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COMPOSED OF 28 LOGISTIC SUPPORT SHIPS AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTORS.

THE NUMBER OF SOVIET UNITS NOW IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IS THE LARGEST EVER OBSERVED THERE. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS IMPROVES THE CAPABILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON TO PROVIDE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THE ARABS. DESPITE THE INCREASE IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPS, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ADDED A LARGE NUMBER OF MAJOR COMBATANTS TO THEIR FORCES IN REACTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. BEFORE THE FIGHTING BEGAN THERE WERE 14 MAJOR COMBATANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COMPARED TO THE 17 THAT ARE THERE NOW. TWO OF THE NEW UNITS THAT CAME OUT OF THE BLACK SEA ON 10 OCTOBER--A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER--PROBABLY WERE NOT A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE WAR BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN SCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER TO VISIT ITALY WHERE THEY ARE NOW MAKING A PORT CALL.

THE MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING ERUPTED AT THE TIME

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THE SEMIANNUAL SOVIET SUBMARINE TURNOVER WAS OCCURRING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. A RELIEF GROUP OF NINE SUBMARINES FROM THE NORTHERN FLEET ENTERED THE MEDITERRANEAN

25X1D

THEY MAY HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO STAY ON PATROL BECAUSE OF THE WAR. {SECRET}

3. ARAB STATES: THE CONTINUED STRONG SHOWING OF ARAB MILITARY FORCES HAS, AT LEAST FOR NOW, GREATLY STRENGTHENED PRESIDENT SADAT'S POLITICAL POSITION IN EGYPT AND THE ARAB WORLD GENERALLY. THE FACT THAT HE LAUNCHED A WAR MARKED BY SUCCESSES RATHER THAN IMMEDIATE DEFEAT HAS GAINED HIM A RESPECT AND POPULARITY THAT HE NEVER KNEW BEFORE. EVEN SOME OF HIS FORMER CRITICS NOW ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE IS A WORTHY LEADER.

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THE EGYPTIANS HAVE NOT YET SUFFERED MUCH FROM THE FIGHTING, AND THIS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THEIR NEW CONFIDENCE AND PRIDE IN THEMSELVES AND THEIR LEADER. ANTICIPATED ISRAELI DEEP-PENETRATION RAIDS HAVE NOT SO FAR BEEN ON A SCALE TO TERRORIZE THE POPULACE, AND SHORTAGES OF FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER CONSUMER ITEMS WERE EASED BY THE QUICK ARRIVAL OF NEW SUPPLIES.

IN SYRIA, THE POPULACE IS STILL RELATIVELY CALM, DESPITE THE BATTERING SUSTAINED BY THE SYRIAN ARMED FORCES, CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, AND THE ISRAELI ADVANCE TOWARD DAMASCUS. PRESIDENT ASAD HAS TAKEN AN OPTIMISTIC LINE AND MORALE IN GENERAL REMAINS FAIRLY HIGH. THE WAR IS WIDELY VIEWED AS A TASK TOO LONG DELAYED.

THE ATMOSPHERE IS ALSO CALM IN THE IRAQI CAPITAL OF BAGHDAD, WHERE A PROPAGANDA OUTCRY, LIMITED DEFENSE MEASURES, AND THE START OF

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MOBILIZATION ARE THE ONLY OUTWARD SIGNS OF THE NEW WAR. THE FEW INDIRECT REFLECTIONS OF THE PUBLIC ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WAR AVAILABLE SO FAR INDICATE A GROWING EXCITEMENT OVER THE COUNTRY'S MILITARY INVOLVEMENT AND PRIDE IN THE ARAB PERFORMANCE TO THIS POINT.

JORDAN'S ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR, ALTHOUGH CONFINED TO ONE ARMORED BRIGADE, IS PAYING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIVIDENDS. KING HUSAYN AND HIS COUNTRY, OSTRACIZED UNTIL RECENTLY BY A NUMBER OF ARAB REGIMES, IS NOW REAPING FAVORABLE PUBLICITY/ ^{AND} DIPLOMATIC TIES ARE BEING RESTORED. MORE IMPORTANT TO HUSAYN, KUWAIT HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL RESUME PAYING THE \$41-MILLION ANNUAL SUBSIDY TO JORDAN THAT WAS SUSPENDED IN 1970 WHEN HUSAYN EXPELLED THE FEDAYEEN FROM HIS COUNTRY. JORDAN IS STILL BEING PRESSED TO BROADEN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE FIGHT, BUT THE

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KING APPEARS DETERMINED TO KEEP HIS COUNTRY'S INVOLVEMENT AT A MINIMUM AND WOULD LIKE AN EARLY CEASE-FIRE. {SECRET}

4. ISRAEL: THE ISRAELIS, BEGINNING WITH PRIME MINISTER MEIR, ARE NOW CONCENTRATING ON THE WAR, AND THEY ARE GRIMLY DETERMINED TO SECURE WHAT THEY REGARD AS VITAL SECURITY INTERESTS. THEY VOICE CONFIDENCE IN FINAL VICTORY, AND THEY HAVE BEEN BUOYED BY THE US DECISION TO RESUPPLY THEM WITH ARMS AND EQUIPMENT. PUBLIC CONFIDENCE HAS BEEN SHAKEN, HOWEVER, AS THE REALIZATION HAS SPREAD THAT THIS WAR WILL, AS DAYAN SAYS, BE "MORE PROTRACTED, MORE DIFFICULT, MORE BLOODY."

HAVING GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO QUICK AND DRAMATIC MILITARY VICTORIES, THE ISRAELI PUBLIC HAS BEEN STUNNED BY THE BOLDNESS OF THE ARAB ATTACK, BY THE TENACITY THE ARAB FORCES, AND BY THE HEAVY PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT LOSSES INFLICTED ON ISRAEL. THE PUBLIC KNOWS, TOO, THAT THE SYRIAN

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FORCES, ALTHOUGH EXPELLED FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS
 AND BADLY MAULED, ARE CONTINUING TO FIGHT. MOREOVER,
 THE CRUCIAL BATTLE—THAT WITH EGYPT, ALWAYS THE
 PRIMARY ENEMY—STILL LOOMS AHEAD AND WILL, IN ALL
 LIKELIHOOD, BE EVEN MORE COSTLY.

MEANWHILE, THE ECONOMIC COST OF THE WAR
 TO ISRAEL IS MOUNTING. THE ISRAELIS THIS WEEK
 ESTIMATED THAT IT IS COSTING AROUND \$240 MILLION
 A DAY. THE ESTIMATE TRIES TO MEASURE THE IMPACT
 OF THE DIVERSION OF PRODUCTIVE FACTORS FROM THE
 CIVILIAN ECONOMY, WHICH IS OPERATING AT REDUCED
 SPEED, ALTHOUGH STILL AT A LEVEL SUFFICIENT TO
 KEEP THE POPULATION SUPPLIED WITH BASIC NECESSITIES.
 WITH RESPECT TO THE MORE NARROW PROBLEM OF FINANCING
 THE WAR, THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO RAISE \$550
 MILLION THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF COMPULSORY AND
 VOLUNTARY LOANS AND BY CUTTING THE DEVELOPMENT
 BUDGET. WORLD JEWRY IS LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE

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ANOTHER \$150 MILLION OR SO IN ADDITION TO THE
 \$350 MILLION THAT WAS EXPECTED BEFORE THE OUTBREAK
 OF THE WAR. FINALLY, ISRAEL HAS \$1.5 BILLION IN
 FOREIGN RESERVES.//TEL AVIV WILL TURN TO THE US
 FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IF THE WAR DRAGS ON
 VERY LONG.//{SECRET}

5. OAEPC: THE ORGANIZATION OF ARAB PETROLEUM EXPORTING
 COUNTRIES ANNOUNCED ON 17 OCTOBER THAT THE ARAB
 PRODUCING NATIONS WILL REDUCE PRODUCTION BY
 NOT LESS THAN 5 PERCENT PER MONTH UNTIL ARAB
 MILITARY AND POLITICAL DEMANDS ARE MET.//UNTIL
 THE US DECISION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MATERIEL
 TO ISRAEL, KING FAYSAL HAD SHOWN RELUCTANCE
 ABOUT USING SAUDI ARABIAN OIL AS A LEVER AGAINST
 THE WEST.■■■■//NOW RIADH SAYS IT WILL CUT OUTPUT BY
 10 PERCENT. THE AGREEMENT HAMMERED OUT IN KUWAIT
 BY THE ARAB OIL MINISTERS IS PROBABLY SUFFICIENTLY
 FLEXIBLE TO SATISFY ARAB DIVERGENCES OVER THE

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USE OF OIL AS A WEAPON. THE REDUCTION—INITIALLY ABOUT 1 MILLION BARRELS PER DAY—WILL HAVE LITTLE IMMEDIATE EFFECT, BUT COULD CAUSE CONSIDERABLE ECONOMIC DISLOCATION IN WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN BY MID-WINTER.//THE US, WHICH HAD HOPED TO IMPORT AS MUCH AS 600,000 BARRELS PER DAY OF HEATING OIL THIS WINTER, WILL ALSO BE AFFECTED.//

//NEWS REPORTS INDICATE ABU DHABI AND PERHAPS KUWAIT HAVE ALSO INSTITUTED A TOTAL EMBARGO ON OIL SHIPMENTS TO THE US. THE ACTION IS MORE SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS THAN FOR ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT SINCE THE US IMPORTS LESS THAN 100,000 BARRELS PER DAY FROM THE TWO.//

EARLIER, ALL OF THE PIPELINE TERMINALS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN HAD BEEN CLOSED, THE SYRIAN TERMINALS WERE DAMAGED, AND HIGH INSURANCE RATES MADE IT UNPROFITABLE FOR TANKERS TO LOAD IN LEBANON AND ISRAEL. CLOSURE OF THE EAST

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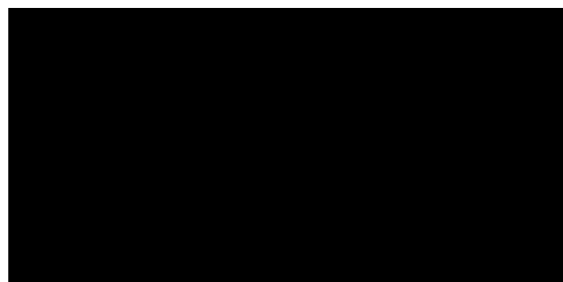
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MEDITERRANEAN PORTS CUT OFF DELIVERY OF SOME 2
 MILLION BARRELS A DAY, 13 PERCENT OF WESTERN
 EUROPE'S OIL CONSUMPTION. MOST OF THIS OIL HAS
 BEEN GOING TO FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN, AND AUSTRIA.
 TRIPOLI HAD BEGUN TO PLACE SOME RESTRICTIONS ON
 THE DESTINATION OF ITS OIL.//FOR EXAMPLE, TRIPOLI
 REFUSED TO LOAD TANKERS HEADED FOR GREECE ON
 THE GROUNDS THAT THE OIL COULD BE USED TO FUEL THE
 US SIXTH FLEET.// {SECRET}E-2 IMPDETH

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 058.

ITEMS MARKED & HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE DEPARTMENTS
 OF STATE AND DEFENSE.

&1. //NATO-FORCE REDUCTIONS: THE ALLIES HAVE REACHED FORMAL
 AGREEMENT ON A BASIC APPROACH TO THE FORCE REDUCTION TALKS THAT BEGIN
 IN VIENNA ON 30 OCTOBER, BUT THERE ARE STILL DIFFERENCES OVER SEVERAL
 ISSUES.//

//ACCORDING TO THE US NATO MISSION, THE ALLIES AGREED TO SEEK A
 TWO-PHASE PROGRAM THAT WOULD LEAD TO APPROXIMATE PARITY BETWEEN NATO
 AND WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES IN THE FORM OF A COMMON MANPOWER CEIL-
 ING. IN THE FIRST PHASE THE US AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD WITHDRAW
 APPROXIMATELY 15 PERCENT OF THEIR GROUND FORCES FROM THE NATO GUIDE-
 LINES AREA--ROUGHLY, CENTRAL EUROPE. IN THE SECOND PHASE, THE OTHER
 NATO AND WARSAW PACT PARTICIPANTS WOULD REDUCE THEIR GROUND FORCES.
 THE ALLIES AGREE THAT REDUCTIONS ON THEIR SIDE SHOULD NOT EXCEED 10
 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NATO GROUND FORCES.//

//THE PAPER SETTING OUT THE GOALS, NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, AND PRO-
 CEDURES FOR THE FORCE REDUCTIONS TALKS WAS APPROVED ONLY AFTER WEEKS

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OF HAGGLING. SEVERAL SERIOUS DISAGREEMENTS AMONG THE ALLIES HAVE MERELY BEEN PAPERED OVER. CHIEF AMONG THE SKEPTICS ARE THE BRITISH WHO REMAIN WARY OF THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT, WISH THE US REDUCTION TO BE NO LARGER THAN 10 PERCENT, AND ARE LEERY OF INCLUDING OTHER NATO FORCES IN THE REDUCTION SCHEME. THE BRITISH DELEGATES TO THE VIENNA TALKS THIS WEEK AGAIN EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE US WOULD PUSH FOR TOO RAPID A PACE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD NOT INSIST ON AN ADEQUATE QUID PRO QUO FROM THE SOVIETS. //

//THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO FORMULATE ITS OWN POSITION ON VARIOUS ISSUES, AND SOME GERMAN OFFICIALS RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ADVOCATING A VERY CAUTIOUS APPROACH TOWARD THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE ITALIANS PRESUMABLY ARE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT REPERCUSSIONS ON FUTURE EUROPEAN DEFENSE COOPERATION, AND THE BELGIANS ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO OPPOSE EFFORTS TO RESTRICT THE NUMBER OF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EAST ON COMPLEX POINTS. THE GREEKS AND TURKS, WHO WILL BE OBSERVERS IN VIENNA, STILL FEAR THAT A REDUCTION AGREEMENT WILL INCREASE THE SOVIET THREAT TO THEM. //

//ONE MAJOR ISSUE YET TO BE RESOLVED BY THE ALLIES INVOLVES

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STABILIZING MEASURES--LIMITATIONS ON MILITARY ACTIVITY THAT WOULD BE IMPOSED EITHER BEFORE OR ALONG WITH REDUCTIONS. THE WEST GERMANS, ALONG WITH THE BRITISH, ARE VERY SKEPTICAL ABOUT CONSTRAINTS, AND HAVE FURTHER ADDED TO THE PROBLEM BY SUGGESTING THAT CERTAIN CONSTRAINTS AGREED UPON BE APPLIED TO THE WESTERN MILITARY DISTRICTS OF THE USSR. SINCE ALL THE ALLIES HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THE CONSTRAINTS, THEY PLAN AN INTENSIVE STUDY OF THIS ISSUE.//

//THE MEASURE OF DISAGREEMENT AMONG THE ALLIES ON MAJOR ISSUES SUGGESTS THAT--AS DURING THE INITIAL TALKS LAST SPRING--THE ALLIES WILL BE HARD-PRESSED TO MAINTAIN UNITY. {SECRET}//

¶2. USSR-CHINA: NEARLY TWO MONTHS AFTER THE CHINESE TENTH PARTY CONGRESS, THE USSR HAS ISSUED A BITTER PUBLIC ATTACK AGAINST CHINA'S LEADERSHIP AND THE "UNNATURALNESS OF PEKING'S ANTI-SOVIET COURSE." THE STATEMENT--OCCUPYING NEARLY A FULL PAGE IN PRAVDA ON 16 OCTOBER--WAS PEGGED TO THE CONGRESS, BUT COVERED A FULL RANGE OF POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES.

THE PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE CHARGES THAT THE PARTY CONGRESS REVEALED THE "DEEPENING CRISIS OF MAOISM AS A DOCTRINE AND A

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POLITICAL REGIME." THE ARTICLE STATES THAT THE "MANEUVERS" OF CERTAIN CHINESE LEADERS AIMED AT "FORMING AN UNPRINCIPLED BLOC WITH IMPERIALISM CANNOT FAIL TO ENCOUNTER RESISTANCE AMONG CHINESE COMMUNISTS." IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT, ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, THAT THIS IS THE "ORIGIN OF THE CONTRADICTIONARY NATURE OF THE CONGRESS' FORMULAS CRITICIZING IMPERIALISM." IN THIS WAY, THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO //ENCOURAGE CAUTION IN THE WESTERN--PARTICULARLY THE US--ATTITUDE TOWARD DEALING WITH THE CHINESE AND TO// EXPLOIT ANY INTERNAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE PEKING LEADERSHIP.

THE SOVIET STATEMENT REVEALS A PARTICULAR SENSITIVITY TO PEKING'S ABILITY TO HAMPER SUCH SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES AS DETENTE WITH THE WEST, PARTICULARLY RECENT CHARGES BY PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI THAT THE SOVIETS ARE HOLDING "NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN ONE HAND AND TREATIES OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE OTHER." CHOU WAS ALLUDING TO A VARIETY OF SOVIET INITIATIVES (E.G., ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND CSCE) AND TO THE SOVIET NONAGGRESSION PROPOSAL THAT WAS OFFERED TO THE CHINESE IN JUNE. THE ARTICLE REJECTED CHINESE ALLEGATIONS OF A "THREAT FROM THE NORTH" AND REPEATED GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV'S

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PUBLIC OFFER AT TASHKENT IN SEPTEMBER TO SETTLE ANY BORDER QUESTIONS BY "NEGOTIATIONS IN CONDITIONS EXCLUDING ANY THREAT."

CLEARLY THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN STUNG BY CHOU'S CHARGES, WHICH STIMULATED EARLIER RECRIMINATIONS FROM MOSCOW, INCLUDING TWO SPEECHES BY BREZHNEV. THE ARTICLE CHARGES, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE CHINESE REMOVED NATIONAL MINORITIES FROM THE SINO-SOVIET BORDER AREA IN THE 1960S AND CONSTRUCTED MILITARY FACILITIES IN THESE AREAS. PRAVDA ■■ACCUSES THE CHINESE OF RESORTING TO MILITARY PROVOCATIONS AND REPEATS BREZHNEV'S FREQUENT WARNING TO "CERTAIN IMPERIALIST CIRCLES" NOT TO TRY TO PROFIT FROM THE "PRESENT ABNORMAL STATE OF SOVIET-CHINESE RELATIONS." THE SOVIETS THUS REMAIN ON THE DEFENSIVE REGARDING THIRD-COUNTRY EFFORTS TO EXPLOIT SINO-SOVIET DIFFERENCES.

FINALLY, THE ARTICLE EDGES MOSCOW CLOSER TO A COMMITMENT TO CALL AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONFERENCE TO CONSIDER THE "CHINA PROBLEM." PRAVDA EMPHASIZES, FOR EXAMPLE, THE GULF THAT EXISTS BETWEEN THE CHINESE PARTY AND THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT. BY CITING PEKING'S FAILURE TO SUPPORT THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE OUTLINED AT PREVIOUS CONFERENCES, THE SOVIETS ARE AT LEAST HINTING THAT ANOTHER

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MEETING IS NECESSARY. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE SOVIETS CAN STILL
EXERCISE ENOUGH LEVERAGE TO CONVENE ANOTHER WORLD CONFERENCE, BUT
MOSCOW IS ALSO AWARE THAT MANY KEY PARTIES WOULD NOT SUPPORT A MOVE 25X1D
TO EXPEL THE CHINESE FROM THE MOVEMENT. {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. //ICELAND: PRIME MINISTER JOHANNESSON REPORTEDLY TOLD HIS
PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE THAT HE INTENDS TO CONFIRM
THE FISHING AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH DRAFTED AD REFERENDUM EARLIER
THIS WEEK IN LONDON. ACCORDING TO A US EMBASSY SOURCE IN REYKJAVIK,
JOHANNESSON TOLD THE COMMUNIST LABOR ALLIANCE REPRESENTATIVES IN THE
THREE-PARTY COALITION THAT THEY HAVE UNTIL THIS "WEEKEND" EITHER TO

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CONCUR OR LEAVE THE GOVERNMENT. IF THE COMMUNISTS DECIDE TO LEAVE, JOHANNESSON REPORTEDLY WILL ASK THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND THE INDEPENDENCE PARTIES TO JOIN THE GOVERNMENT.//

FOREIGN MINISTER MAGUSTSSON HAS PROPOSED THAT THE SECOND ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US ON THE NATO BASE BE HELD DURING THE WEEK OF 12 NOVEMBER IN REYKJAVIK. {CONFIDENTIAL}

5. MIDDLE EAST: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SINAI ON 18 OCTOBER AND A MAJOR BATTLE IS SHAPING UP BETWEEN THE ISRAELI TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK AND SURROUNDING EGYPTIAN UNITS. THE SYRIAN FRONT WAS RELATIVELY QUIET FOR THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW, WITH A VIRTUAL CESSATION OF AIR ACTIVITY.

CAIRO AND TEL AVIV CONTINUED TO REPORT EXTREMELY HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE SINAI, BUT NEITHER SIDE PROVIDED MANY DETAILS. THE PORT SAID AREA WAS AGAIN THE TARGET OF CONCENTRATED ISRAELI AIR STRIKES, WITH OTHER MISSIONS FLOWN ALONG THE CANAL AND AGAINST SOME EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS. EGYPTIAN AIR ACTIVITY WAS LIMITED TO DEFENSIVE PATROLS.

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THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED THEIR TASK FORCE ON THE WEST BANK, AND HAVE BEATEN OFF HEAVY EGYPTIAN COUNTERATTACKS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CANAL, DESTROYING 110 TANKS. BY EARLY THIS MORNING TEL AVIV SAID IT HAD 200 TANKS ON THE WEST BANK. CAIRO, HOWEVER, CLAIMED IT HAD THE FORCE ENCIRCLED, AND HAD ORDERED IT TO SURRENDER OR FACE ANNIHILATION. THE ISRAELIS HAVE YET TO ANNOUNCE HOW LONG THE FORCE WILL REMAIN ON THE WEST BANK.

THE SYRIAN FRONT YESTERDAY HAD THE QUIETEST DAY SINCE THE WAR BEGAN. THE ONLY GROUND ACTIONS OF NOTE WERE SOME MODERATE ARTILLERY EXCHANGES. THE ISRAELIS MADE NO CLAIMS OF HAVING DESTROYED ARAB ARMOR, BUT SYRIA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID IT DESTROYED 30 ISRAELI TANKS AND 10 ARMORED VEHICLES. THE ISRAELIS EVIDENTLY CONSIDER THE SYRIAN FRONT SUFFICIENTLY STABILIZED TO PERMIT CONCENTRATION OF THEIR RESOURCES IN THEIR DELAYED OFFENSIVE IN THE SINAI.

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THE ISRAELI BORDER WITH LEBANON IS BECOMING MORE ACTIVE. THE ISRAELIS CLAIM THAT GUERRILLA HIT-AND-RUN ACTIONS ARE INCREASING, AND THE LEBANESE HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT MORTAR AND ARTILLERY ROUNDS FROM ISRAEL FALLING ON LEBANESE TERRITORY.

THE MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS HAD THREE LENGTHY MEETINGS WITH SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN IN CAIRO. MOSCOW, HOWEVER, HAS NOT YET ADMITTED THAT KOSYGIN IS VISITING EGYPT.

SOVIET PROPAGANDA AND CONTACTS WITH SOVIET DIPLOMATS CONTINUE TO REFLECT MOSCOW'S CONCERN THAT THE WAR MIGHT INTERRUPT THE PROCESS OF DETENTE. THIS CONCERN IS NOT DEEP ENOUGH, HOWEVER, TO HALT THE AIRLIFT WHICH CONTINUED YESTERDAY AT ABOUT THE SAME PACE. {SECRET}

6. USSR-MEDITERRANEAN: THE DEPLOYMENT OF FOUR AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN ON 17 OCTOBER RAISES THE NUMBER OF SOVIET NAVAL SHIPS THERE TO 73

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UNITS. THE NORMAL MEDITERRANEAN FORCE NUMBERS BETWEEN 45 AND 50 SUBMARINES AND SURFACE SHIPS.

THE PRESENT SOVIET FORCE IS MADE UP OF 27 SURFACE COMBATANTS, INCLUDING AMPHIBIOUS VESSELS AND MINESWEEPERS, AND 18 SUBMARINES. THE REMAINING FORCE IS COMPOSED OF 28 LOGISTIC SUPPORT SHIPS AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTORS.

THE NUMBER OF SOVIET UNITS NOW IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IS THE LARGEST EVER OBSERVED THERE. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS IMPROVES THE CAPABILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON TO PROVIDE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THE ARABS. DESPITE THE INCREASE IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPS, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ADDED A LARGE NUMBER OF MAJOR COMBATANTS TO THEIR FORCES IN REACTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. BEFORE THE FIGHTING BEGAN THERE WERE 14 MAJOR COMBATANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COMPARED TO THE 17 THAT ARE THERE NOW. TWO OF THE NEW UNITS THAT CAME OUT OF

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THE BLACK SEA ON 10 OCTOBER--A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER--
 PROBABLY WERE NOT A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE WAR BECAUSE
 THEY HAD BEEN SCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER TO
 VISIT ITALY WHERE THEY ARE NOW MAKING A PORT CALL.

THE MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING ERUPTED AT THE TIME
 THE SEMIANNUAL SOVIET SUBMARINE TURNOVER WAS OC-
 CURRING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. A RELIEF GROUP OF NINE
 SUBMARINES FROM THE NORTHERN FLEET ENTERED THE MED-
 ITERRANEAN

25X1D

THEY MAY HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO STAY
 ON PATROL BECAUSE OF THE WAR. {SECRET} E-2 IMPDETH

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